



## NEWS RELEASE

### Media Contact:

Ricardo Santiago  
Public Information Officer  
213-257-2000  
[RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov)  
Twitter: @LADAOOffice

June 8, 2015

## Long Beach Man Pleads to Killing Rescue Cat

A 23-year-old man pleaded no contest today to a charge of killing a rescue cat he got for his girlfriend in Redondo Beach, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Juree Kim said Sergei Andreevic Smirnoff (dob 6/30/91) of Long Beach entered the plea to one felony count of cruelty to an animal in case YA091757.

Smirnoff was immediately sentenced to one year in a live-in mental health and substance abuse program and three years of formal probation. The defendant also will have to take 48 animal cruelty prevention classes and was ordered not to own or possess any animals for ten years.

As part of the negotiated settlement, Smirnoff can be sentenced to two years in county jail if he violates his probation or the rules of his residential treatment program.

On Dec. 14, 2014, Smirnoff got a cat named Roxy for his girlfriend but claimed it did not get along with her other cats, the prosecutor said. The defendant then took the cat into the garage, kissed and caressed it and allegedly kicked the cat, picked her up and caressed and kissed her again, the prosecutor said.

Smirnoff then allegedly choked Roxy while sticking his fingers in her mouth and then slammed her down on the ground killing her, Kim said. The defendant caressed and kissed the cat again and placed it into a box with blankets, the prosecutor added.

The case was investigated by the Redondo Beach Police Department.

###

### About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice

for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.